

Message Text

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SUBJECT: NPG: AUGUST 1 STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 178802 (DTG 300016Z JUL 77), (B) USNATO
07284 (DTG 281010Z JUL 77), (C) USNATO 06950 (DTG
191502Z JUL 77), (D) USNATO 06872 (DTG 152138Z JUL 77)

SUMMARY: AT THE AUGUST 1 NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) MEETING,
DISCUSSION AGAIN FOCUSED ON NEW TECHNOLOGY FOLLOW-ON WORK,
WITH INTERNATIONAL STAFF UNDERTAKING TO PREPARE A REVISED
AND SHORTER DRAFT PERMREPS REPORT IN TIME FOR APPROVAL
DURING SEPTEMBER. SG CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT TASKING P.O.
ON NIKE HERCULES WAS COMPLETE AND AWAITING SIGNATURE.
END SUMMARY.

1. NEW TECHNOLOGY FOLLOW-ON WORK. AT AUGUST 1 MEETING,
US (WOODWORTH) AND OTHER STAFF GROUP REPS SUPPORTED THE
CHAIRMAN'S (SHEARER'S) INTENTION TO PREPARE A SHORTENED
VERSION OF THE DRAFT PERMREPS REPORT ON NEW TECHNOLOGY

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FOLLOW-ON WORK, AGREEING TO HAVE THE PAPER READY
FOR APPROVAL DURING SEPTEMBER. FRG REP (ANDING), WHILE
AGREEING WITH THE THRUST OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF DRAFT
TO DEFER FOLLOW-ON WORK, SAID HIS AUTHORITIES BELIEVED
THERE WOULD BE SOME VALUE IN UNDERTAKING TO DEFINE THE
BASIC ELEMENTS OF A (QUOTE) CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK (UNQUOTE)
FOR FUTURE ANALYSIS IN THE NEW TECHNOLOGY FIELD REC-

OMMENDED IN THE TECHNOLOGY STUDY (REF B, PARA 1). THERE FOLLOWED A BRIEF DISCUSSION REGARDING INTENDED MEANING OF (QUOTE) CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK (UNQUOTE) WITH UK REP (LEGGE) NOTING THAT THERE WERE DIFFERING INTERPRETATIONS OF THE PHRASE. UK REP SUGGESTED THAT IF ISSUE OF CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK WERE TO BE ADDRESSED IN DETAIL, HE BELIEVED HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD PROBABLY FAVOR RECONVENING THE NEW TECHNOLOGY PANEL. ON BALANCE, HOWEVER, UK REP BELIEVED IT BEST TO AWAIT US OUTLINE ON THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE (TNF) INITIATIVE BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH CONSIDERATION OF THE FRG'S SUGGESTION. US REP ALSO NOTED THAT FRG SUGGESTION MIGHT BE CONSIDERED IN CONTEXT OF DISCUSSIONS ON THE TNF LONG-TERM INITIATIVE. FRG REP SAID HE THOUGHT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD CONCUR WITH A CONSENSUS TO DEFER SUCH WORK, BUT SAID THEY WOULD WANT THE REASONS FOR SUCH DEFERRAL CONTAINED IN THE PERMREPS REPORT.

2. CHAIRMAN SAID THAT AFTER CAREFUL EVALUATION OF AVAILABLE STAFF RESOURCES, HE DID NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PRODUCTIVE FOR IS TO UNDERTAKE A SURVEY/REVIEW OF PAST AND ONGOING NEW TECHNOLOGY STUDY WORK IN NATO AT THIS TIME. HE PROPOSED, WITH STAFF GROUP SUPPORT, TO REFLECT THIS CONCLUSION IN THE REVISED DRAFT PERMREPS' REPORT.

3. NIKE HERCULES. SG CHAIRMAN SAID THAT P.O. TASKING NMA'S WAS IN SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE AWAITING SIGNATURE.
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